

Dec. 12. 2006 3:43PM

No. 0298. P. 2

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS TRANSMITTED BY FACSIMILE TO THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH 37 CFR § 1.8(D).

on December 13, 2006

[Signature]
Robert O'Flynn O'Brien, Reg. No. 35,829

December 13, 2006
Date of Signature

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
DEC 12 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)
Mary Jean Cash)
Patrick J. Cowan)
Gijsbert Kroon)
Serial No.: 10/722,888) Group Art Unit: 1623
Filed: November 26, 2003) Examiner: Roy P. Issac
For: Soluble, Associative Carboxymethylcellulose,)
Method of Making, And Uses Thereof)

MAIL STOP: Amendment
Assistant Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Sir:

Pursuant to the Restriction Requirement contained in the Office Action dated October 12, 2006, applicants provisionally elect claims of Group I i.e., claims 1-3 and 7-8 drawn to a composition comprising carboxymethylcellulose, for continued prosecution herein.

Claims 1-31 are present in the above-identified application and have been subjected to restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121. Specifically, the Office Action takes the position that following inventions are present in the claims:

Group I, claims 1-3 and 7-8, drawn to a composition comprising carboxymethylcellulose classified in class 504, sub-class 101; Group II, claims 4-6 drawn to a method of making carboxymethylcellulose composition, classified in class 504, sub-class 57.

- 1 -

It is the Examiner's position that the inventions listed in Groups I, II, III and IV are distinct from each other.

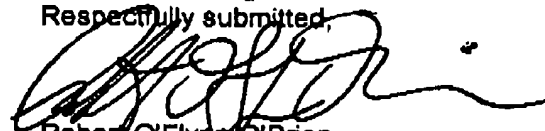
In response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the subject matter of Group I, claims 1-3 and 7-8.

Applicants hereby reserve the right under 35 USC §121 to file one or more divisional applicants directed to the non-elected claims contained in this specification.

This response is accompanied by a Petition for Extension of Time, extending the period of response until December 12, 2006.

In view of the forgoing, an examination on the merits of the elected claims at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert O'Flynn O'Brien
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 35,629

Hercules Incorporated
Hercules Plaza
1313 North Market Street
Wilmington, DE 19894-0001

Agent's Phone: (302) 594-6953

December 12, 2006

c:/RR 10290 US.frm

PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

DEC 12 2006

**HERCULES INCORPORATED
HERCULES PLAZA
13TH AND MARKET STREETS
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19894**

**TELEPHONE: (302) 594-6977
FAX: (302) 594-6998**

Date: December 7, 2006
TO: MAIL STOP: Amendment
Fax # 571-273-8300
FROM: Robert O'Flynn O'Brien - 8
NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 4

**RETURN FAX TO:
HERCULES INCORPORATED
LAW DEPARTMENT
(302) 594-6998**

If there are any problems with this transmission please call
Denise D. Smith at (302)-594-6977

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information contained in this fax message is privileged and confidential, and intended for the use of the individual(s) and/or entity(ies) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any unauthorized disclosure, copying, distribution or taking of any action in reliance on the contents of the telecopied materials is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately notify us by telephone (collect) to arrange for return of the materials. Thank you.

Message (if any): US - DKT 10290

Appin No.: 10/722,888
November 26, 2003
Title: Soluble, Associative Carboxymethylcellulose, Method of Making, And Uses Thereof
Our Ref: DKT 10290
Inventors: Cash, Cowan & Kroon

Attached: Response to Requirement for Restriction

C:\Documents and Settings\smithdd\My Documents\Fax\USPTO Fax.doc